

REMARKS:

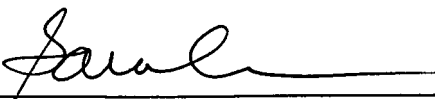
Applicant appreciates Examiner's courtesy in clarifying by telephone on October 21, 2005, that claims 13-15 are allowed and are not subject to a restriction and/or election requirement.

Regarding the remaining claims, claims 1, 2, 7, and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mayfield (US 3,593,654). Claims 1-4 and 7-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Liberman et al. (US 3,827,587). Claims 6 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mayfield in view of Reed et al. (US 5,692,583). Claims 5 and 11 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has now amended independent claim 1 to include all the limitations of claim 5 and all intervening claims. Applicant has also amended independent claim 7 to include all the limitations of claim 11 and all intervening claims. Claims 5 and 11 stand allowable. Accordingly, claims 1, 7, and all claims depending from these claims should now also be in allowable form.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 21, 2005

  
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